Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SS-20 AGR-20 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SPC-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

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R 062053Z FEB 74 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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EO: 11652, N/A TAGS: ETRD, TH

SUBJ: THAILAND COTTON TEXTILES

REF: BANGKOK 1708

- 1. EXAMINATION OF IMPORT DOCUMENTS IN COTTON TEXTILE CATEGORIES 45, 46, 47 SHOWS U.S. CUSTOMS NOT RECLASSIFYING TEXTILES FROM THAILAND IN THESE CATEGORIES. HOWEVER, COMPARISON USG IMPORT STATISTICS WITH RTG EXPORT STATISTICS DOES SHOW CLASSIFICATION PROBLEM AS U.S. IMPORTS CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN RTG EXPORTS IN CATEGORY 46 AND CONCOMMITANTLY LOWER IN CATEGORIES 47 AND, TO SOME EXTENT, 45.
- 2. IT APPEARS IMPORTERS ARE AWARE OF CORRECT CLASSIFICATION AND ARE CHANGING CLASSIFICATION WHEN INCORRECT ON SHIPPING DOCUMENTS BEFORE PRESENTING GOODS FOR ENTRY. INCORRECT CLASSIFICATION BY RTG, IF BASED ON IMPORTER/EXPORTER ADVICE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WOULDINDICATE ATTEMPT CIRCUMVENT RTG EXPORT CONTROL.

- 3. TO ASSIST RTG PENDING ITS MASTERING CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURES, USG AGREEABLE TO PRACTICAL SOLUTION ON ONE-TIME BASIS, RETROACTIVE TO LAST YEAR'S AGREEMENT: UPON RTG REQUEST, USG WILLING TO COUNT 46/47 PRODUCTS AS THOUGH CATEGORIES HAVE BEEN MERGED.
- 4. REQUEST EMBASSY INFORM RTG OF FOREGOING AND OF FACT LETTER REQUIRED REQUESTING MERGER OF 46/47 FOR FIRST AND SECOND AGREEMENT YEARS ONLY AND REQUESTING SWING FOR SECOND AGREEMENT YEAR. UPON RECEIPT OF OFFICIAL LETTER WE WILL INSTRUCT CUSTOMS RELEASE EMBARGOED GOODS.
- 5. ALSO NOTE TO RTG: (1) PROBLEM POINTS UP DESIRABILITY OF RTG AVAILING ITSELF SOONEST OF USG PROPOSAL FOR TRAINING COURSE FOR RTG PERSONNEL IN PARTICULAR IN CLASSIFICATION AREA; (2) WE HAVE RECEIVED SAMPLES AND WILL OBTAIN FORMAL CUSTOMS CLASSIFICATION; (3) AS GENERAL RULE OF THUMB, PLAID COTTON FLANNEL SHIRTS ARE GENERALLY CLASSIFIED AS SPORT SHIRTS WHICH RTG EVIDENTLY HAS BEEN CLASSIFYING TO LARGE EXTENT AS WORK SHIRTS (BASED ON SAMPLE RECEIVED). KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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